

REMARKS

This is in full and timely response the Office Action dated February 23, 2007. Reexamination in light of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 3, 4, 9, 12, 13, and 19 are currently pending in this application, with claims 4, 14, 16, 17, and 18 being independent. Claims 1, 5, 7, 10 and 21 are canceled. Claims 3, 4, 9, 12, 13, 14, 16-18 are amended. *No new matter has been added.*

Entry of this Amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 since the amendment: (a) places the application in condition for allowance (for the reasons discussed herein); (b) does not raise any new issues requiring further search and/or consideration; (c) satisfies a requirement of form asserted in the previous Office Action; and (d) places the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The amendment is necessary and was not earlier presented because it is made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested. Reexamination and reconsideration in light of the above amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Allowable subject matter

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication in item 5 of the Office Action that claims 4, 14, & 16-19 are allowed if amended, to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 4, 14, and 16~18 are amended to include all of the limitation of the base claim(s). By this amendment, claim19 also includes all of the limitation of the base claim. Therefore, the objection is respectfully traversed.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Suzuki (U.S. 2002-0064018). Claims 1, 5, 7 and 21 have been canceled. Claims 3, and 9 have been amended so as to depend on allowable claims 4 or 17. Therefore, claims 3 and 9 should also be allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 10, 12 and 13 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Suzuki in view of Strohmeier (U.S. 6871060). Claim 10 has been canceled. Claims 12 and 13 have been amended so as to depend on allowable claims 16 or 17. Therefore, claims 10, 12 and 13 should also be allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

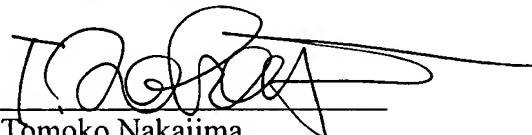
Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, all the claims now pending in the present application are allowable, and the present application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reexamination and reconsideration of the application in light of the amendments and remarks is courteously solicited.

If any fee is required or any overpayment made, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee or credit the overpayment to Deposit Account # 18-0013.

Dated: May 21, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Tomoko Nakajima
Registration No.: L0231
RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC
Correspondence Customer Number: 23353
Attorney for Applicant